### **Find Dental Care**

- Washington Information Network 2-1-1 www.win211.org
- WithinReach Answers for Special Kids (ASK) Line www.parenthelp123.org/families/ dental-health
- Community and Migrant Health Centers http://wacmhc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an= 1&subarticlenbr=9
- University of Washington Dental Clinic http://www.dental.washington.edu/patient/ patient-care-guide.html-0
- Dental Hygiene Schools Dental Clinics www.wsdha.com/studentsection/schools
- Free Clinic Association www.wafreeclinics.org/clinics.html
- Washington Denturist Association http://wadenturist.com/findadenturist.as px
- Washington State Dental Association http://www.wsda.org/reduced-cost-dentalcare/

#### **Oral Health Resources**

- Local ABCD Coordinator http://abcd-dental.org/pdf/roster.pdf
- Local CSHCN Coordinator www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/mch/documents/c oordlst.pdf
- Regional Maxillofacial Team www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/mch/maxillo facial\_review\_teams.htm
- Medical Home Teams www.medicalhome.org/leadership/ teams.cfm
- Smile Mobile Schedule
  http://www.deltadentalwa.com/Guest/Pu
  blic/AboutUs/WDS%20Foundation/~/me
  dia/PDFs/About%20Us/Foundation/smil
  emobile\_schedule\_2012.ashx
- Area Agencies on Aging http://www.agingwashington.org/local\_ aaas.asp
- Washington Tobacco Quitline www.quitline.com



## Oral Health for Pregnant Women



**Oral Health Promotion Card Brochure 3 of 13** 

For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 1-800-833-6388).

# Good health starts with a healthy mouth.



# Learn how to prevent dental disease by following simple measures at home.

Taking care of your teeth during pregnancy helps overall health and keeps you and your baby healthy.

Hormonal changes during pregnancy can increase your risk for **gum disease**. Pregnancy is also a busy time when you may pay less attention to oral hygiene leading to dental decay.

If you have **healthy teeth**, your baby is at lower risk for tooth decay.

Get all tooth decay treated before your baby is born. This will decrease the chance of you passing germs that may cause tooth decay to your baby through saliva. Brush with fluoride toothpaste twice a day, after breakfast and before bed with a soft toothbrush. Floss every night.

#### Visit a dental provider.

Dentists and dental hygienists are available in private dental offices, community health clinics, schools, and mobile vans.

Dental x-rays and local anesthesia are safe for you and your baby. Be sure your provider has a lead apron and thyroid collar to protect you and your baby during x-rays.

Limit juice, soda (including diet), and sports drinks between meals.

Sweet and starchy foods (sticky fruit snacks, cookies, crackers, and chips) may cause tooth decay. Eat these foods at meal time. In between meals, snack on fresh fruits, vegetables, cheese, or nuts.

Ignoring personal oral hygiene and needed dental care can cause health problems for you and your baby. Drink tap water that is optimally fluoridated. Fluoride is safe, effective, and keeps teeth strong.